

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Native Aquatic Species Restoration and Recovery

Conserving America's Fisheries

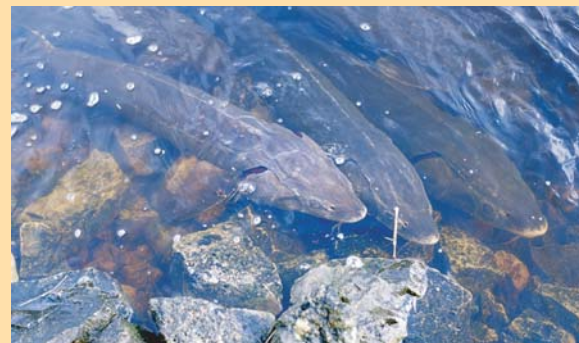
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fisheries Program works with partners to maintain, restore, and recover self-sustaining populations of native fish and other aquatic species, and enhance fishing opportunities for the benefit of the American public.



Native aquatic species are facing challenges:

- 123 freshwater species extinct since 1900 in North America.
- 39% of U.S. freshwater fishes currently at risk of extinction.
- Future extinction rate predicted at 4% per decade.

All photos credit USFWS



Challenges include loss and degradation of habitat, introduction of invasive species and pollution, which imperil many populations of fish and other native aquatic species.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Fisheries Program
*Working for Healthy Fish, Healthy Habitats,
Healthy Economies and Healthy People*

To address these challenges, the Fisheries Program works with our partners to:

- Maintain self-sustaining fish and other aquatic resource populations;
- Restore declining native aquatic resource populations before requiring protection under the Endangered Species Act; and,
- Recover endangered and threatened species.



The Fisheries Program's National Fish Hatchery System plays a significant role in captive propagation and Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Offices are working to assess the condition of aquatic species. We will continue to develop management plans, and evaluate actions to prevent native aquatic species from further declines.

